

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-15. (cancelled)

16. (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising Pediocin A in combination with at least one of bacterial strains selected from the group consisting of:

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB61, ATCC 43200;

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB63;

Pediococcus pentosaceus L7230, ATCC 43201.

17. (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, comprising a mixture consisting of Pediocin A and one of bacterial strains selected from the group consisting of:

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB61, ATCC 43200;

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB63;

Pediococcus pentosaceus L7230, ATCC 43201.

18. (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, comprising a mixture consisting of Pediocin A and *Pediococcus pentosaceus* FBB61, ATCC 43200.

19. (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, further comprising Pediocin A analogous molecules.

20. (currently amended) A method ~~for increasing the health of~~ ~~of enhancing the sanitary conditions of the an~~ intestine ~~[[in]] of a~~ monogastric species, the improvement ~~method comprising consisting in~~ administering to said species an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising Pediocin A in combination with at least one bacterial strain selected from the group consisting of:

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB61, ATCC 43200;

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB63; and

Pediococcus pentosaceus L7230, ATCC 43201, as claimed in claim 16

said amount being effective to increase the health of said intestine, said Pediocin A being present in said composition independently from said bacterial strain.

21. (currently amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said effective amount is the amount effective to increase ~~for increasing~~ polyamines production of bacterial origin into the intestinal lumen of said intestine.

22. (currently amended) The method ~~according to claim 20~~ of claim 21, in-which ~~wherein~~ said amines polyamines are putrescine and spermidine.

23. (currently amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said effective amount is also effective to increase ~~for increasing~~ the epithelial surface of ~~intestinal a wall of said intestine~~ deputed to the adapted for absorption absorption of nutrients.

24. (currently amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said effective amount is also effective to increase ~~for increasing~~ the length of villi in intestinal, proximal and medium jejunum.

25. (currently amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said effective amount is also effective to increase ~~for increasing~~ the thickness of brush border, constituted of microvilli at enterocytes luminal apex.

26. (currently amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said effective amount is also effective to increase ~~for increasing~~ the thickness of mucous tunica, both on a proximal and medium jejunum level.

27. (currently amended) ~~The A method according to claim 20~~, for incorporating said Pediocin A or ~~Pediocin A-analogous molecules~~ into the mucous layer which covers the intestinal structures of a monogastric animal, comprising a step of administering to said animal an amount of a composition comprising Pediocin A in combination with at least one bacterial strain selected from the group consisting of:

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB61, ATCC 43200;

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB63; and

Pediococcus pentosaceus L7230, ATCC 43201,

effective to incorporate said Pediocin A into said mucous layer, said Pediocin A being present in said composition independently from said bacterial strain.

28. (currently amended) The A method according to claim 20, for the prevention and prophylaxis of *Clostridium perfringens* infections in a monogastric animal, comprising a step of administering to said animal an amount of a composition comprising Pediocin A in combination with at least one bacterial strain selected from the group consisting of:

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB61, ATCC 43200;

Pediococcus pentosaceus FBB63; and

Pediococcus pentosaceus L7230, ATCC 43201,

effective for the prophylaxis of *Clostridium perfringens* infections in said animal, said Pediocin A being present in said composition independently from said bacterial strain.